

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 13216 181734Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 EA-10 EUR-12  
COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 /061 W  
-----075583 181741Z /50

P R 181515Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4281  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FODAG/AIDAC

WASH PASS IO/AGR/BYRNES AND AID/W, FFP/SHAUGHNESSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: --  
SUBJECT: EMERGENCY FOOD AID TO LAOS

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 0757

1. IN RESPONSE REFTEL AND BYRNES/SHAUGHNESSY/ROSENTHAL  
TELCONS, FODAG REVIEWED LAOS SITUATION WITH WFP. WFP  
AGREES THAT IT HAS COMMITMENT FOR EMERGENCY AND DEVELOP-  
MENT PROJECTS IN LAOS WHICH IT WOULD HAVE MET WITH OR WITHOUT  
U.S. PARTICIPATION. WFP STATES THAT IF U.S. HAD NOT  
SUPPORTED PROJECTS IN LAOS, WFP WOULD HAVE PURCHASED  
RICE, PROBABLY IN BANGKOK. U.S. WILLINGNESS TO HAVE  
ITS PLEDGE USED FOR SUPPORT OF WFP COMMITMENTS IN LAOS  
PROVIDED CONVENIENT SOURCE DONATED RICE NOT OTHERWISE  
AVAILABLE. THIS DID NOT, OF COURSE, CHANGE WFP OVERALL  
RESOURCE POSITION. IT ALSO, OF COURSE, DOES NOT  
ADD TO TOTAL FOOD AID PROVIDED TO LAOS. WFP FEELS IT HAS  
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ACTED WITH PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF SCARCE CASH  
RESOURCES AND STATED ITS FEELING THAT U.S. SHOULD  
CLARIFY THAT 10,000 MT RICE IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO  
EXISTING U.S. WFP PLEDGE AND DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY  
ADDITIONAL FOOD RESOURCES.

2. WITH RESPECT WFP ACTION RE CONTINUED UNMET FOOD

DEFICIT, WFP FEELS EXISTING LEVEL OF COMMITMENT ALL THAT IS NEEDED BUT SITUATION WILL BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW. WFP, IN EARLIER RESPONSE TO THIS QUESTION SENT A CABLE ON JUNE 28 TO UNDP RES REP VIENTIANE - QUOTE. WFP NOT CONTEMPLATING FOR TIME BEING FURTHER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IN ADDITION TO WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED. UNQUOTE.

3. SUMMARY COMMENTS: IT APPEARS THEN THAT WFP DECISION TO SUBSTITUTE U.S. PLEDGE FOR ITS CASH PURCHASE IS RELATED TO A LOWERING OF ITS ESTIMATE OF SHORTFALL. THIS COULD RESULT FROM REASSESSMENT OF NEEDS OR ARRIVAL OR PLEDGE OF FOOD FROM NON-WFP SOURCES. WFP CONTENTS, IN ANY EVENT, THAT (A) IT IS ALREADY OVERPROGRAMMED ON USE OF PLEDGED FOOD RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY PURPOSES AND (B) AT PRESENT, THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT IS NOT NEEDED. WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY/VIENTIANE STRESS THAT U.S. AGREEMENT TO PERMIT ITS WFP PLEDGE TO BE USED IN LAOS IS A SIGNIFICANT AND MAJOR U.S. POLICY CHANGE, TOWARD LAOS AND THAT GOL SHOULD HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE U.S. FOOD WOULD ARRIVE. WE WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY VIENTIANE GET ESTIMATE OF WFP REP IN VIENTIANE AS TO HIS AND WFP'S VIEW OF 32,500 TON NATIONWIDE SHORTFALL APPARENTLY DESCRIBED IN VIENTIANE 600, BUT NOT RECEIVED HERE.  
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4. REQUEST FURTHER WASHINGTON VIEWS ON THIS MATTER.

DECONTROL AUGUST 30, 1978. GARDNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOD ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ROME13216  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780294-1073  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780748/aaaabnwr.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6a285171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 VIENTIANE 757  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1969806  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EMERGENCY FOOD AID TO LAOS  
**TAGS:** EAID, EAGR  
**To:** STATE VIENTIANE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6a285171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014